GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5008
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
ELECTRONIC DATA INTERFACE
PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have designed an Electronic Data Interface (EDI) which will reduce interaction between traders and officials and simplify the cumbersome procedure of obtaining custom clearances; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the EDI will start its operation in various cities ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) Yes , Sir.
(b) The Government have designed Indian Custom EDI System (ICES-I) for imports and Indian Customs EDI System (ICES-E) for exports. EDI is already operational at 23 major Customs locations in India.
Under these systems, the importers and exporters are required to file their goods declaration electronically which are processed by the Customs officials on computer screen. There is no interaction with the officials except at the point of delivery of goods in case of imports and for obtaining Let Export Order in case of exports. Filing of separate claim for availing of drawback has also been abolished and on the basis of a single electronic declaration for export shipping bill, the drawback amount is being credited automatically to the account of exporter maintained in designated banks.